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8. (Amended) A method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of applying scaling factors to the respective movement vectors according to the respective positions of the elements on the display means.

A4
10. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the step of defining the or each sort statement comprises the step of displaying a list of available sort parameters on the display means and selecting a set of sort parameters from the list.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the step of defining the or each sort statement site comprises the step of selecting a respective position on the display means which correspond to a point on the circumference of a circle.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein each element moves from its initial position towards a site which represents the most relevant sort statement for the respective data file.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of storing the selected data files.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of pre-selecting at least one sub-class of data files to be sorted.

16. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of pre-formatting the data files to be sorted.